

Rogue River Courier.

VOL. XXII.

GRANTS PASS, JOSEPHINE COUNTY, OREGON, FRIDAY, OCTOBER 26, 1906.

No. 30.

THE DAY FOR CHEAP FRUIT IS PASSED

Pests Destroying Orchards of the U. S. Makes Big Demand for Rogue River Apples.

It is said there is no loss without some gain and the pests that are now making such havoc in the fruit industry of the United States are certain to prove in the end a decided benefit to the orchardists of Rogue River Valley. There are no less than 50 different kinds of insect fungus and contagious diseases in the United States that are preying on the fruit trees and each year, more are being brought to the country by careless importers of trees and plants. One of the latest importations is the gypsy moth which comes from Europe and first appeared in Boston and has now spread over much of Massachusetts and bids fair to bring destruction to fruit trees in all parts of the United States. Massachusetts has spent \$100,000 in fighting this pest and the general government has spent \$25,000 in experiments to find a means of destroying this formidable pest. The brown-tailed moth is another pest that is working west to ruin orchards. That pest growing in the East is soon to be a thing of the past if a means is not found to eradicate the blight that is death to the trees. This disease begins on the twigs and soon spreads over the tree killing it in a year or two. So far the only means found to combat this deadly pest is to cut down the trees and burn them, but that leaves the luckless farmers without a pear orchard. This pest has appeared in California and is making such havoc in the orchards that the pear growers of that state met at Sacramento last month and effected an organization for the express purpose of eradicating the pest from the state through persistent work on the part of the orchardists aided by the state and the Department of Agriculture, both of which are co-operating with the farmers. This formidable pest has spread up the Sacramento valley until it has reached Shasta county, and it has but one more county, Siskiyou, to cross until it reaches Rogue River Valley, then will end the pear industry for Jackson and Josephine counties. Rogue River Valley has been proven to be the best pear district in the United States for pears from Medford for the past five years have brought the highest price paid in the New York markets, the world's record this year being broken by a car of Comice pears selling for \$8450, netting the grower \$2810. Three are thousands of acres of fine pear land in Josephine county and if the blight can be kept out of the Valley the pear orchards will be the big money makers to the fruit raisers. To absolutely stop importing pear trees is the only certain way to keep out this disease, but as there is no large nursery in the valley to supply the demand the only thing to do is for the county fruit inspector to make a rigid inspection of all imported trees before they are allowed to leave the depot.

While fighting the pests is a most serious task for Rogue River fruit raisers yet it is almost a hopeless fight for the farmers of the Middle and Eastern states. There the fruit trees grow so large that it is almost impossible to spray them. There apple trees two feet in diameter and 40 to the top twigs are common and pear trees grow to the size of elms. To spray such trees with anything less powerful than a fire engine is impossible. Then most of the fruit trees

are in small orchards it would not be profitable for the owners to install a costly power spraying plant. But these farmers are corn, wheat or stock raisers and not fruit growers and they give their orchards no special care and having no training in caring for fruit trees they would soon lose their orchards when the pests appear.

The San Jose scale, codlin moth, anthracnose, the blight and 20 other deadly pests are spreading over the East. The scale has made greater inroads on the orchards of the United States this year than ever before and the other pests are gaining equally as fast. The sequence to this devastation by pests is that fruit raising will hereafter be carried on in favored sections where fruit does extra well and it can be made a special industry and the pests held in check. The day for cheap fruit is past in the United States as hard as it may be on people of limited means and that only the rich can eat a pear or an apple of have grapes or peaches on their tables. The \$3 a box had this year for Hood River apples will soon be the standard price for Newtowns and Spitzenbergs and other choice apples in all the fruit districts of the United States. Rogue River growers will get that price another year and until the pests are exterminated in the United States, which will not be for years yet, the farmers in this Valley will continue to get big prices for their fruit. Thus it is that the pests will really add wealth to Rogue River Valley, provided the orchardists here are able to keep them under control. A well cared for orchard in full bearing will easily produce a car load of apples or pears. At the Hood River price for apples that would net the grower \$1800 an acre and at the Medford price for pears \$2700 an acre. That beats \$10 a ton for hay or 90 cents a bushel for wheat. With this certainty of the wealth that is to come to Josephine county by reason of exchanging our apples, pears, peaches and grapes for the cash from the distant markets, it will make it a profitable undertaking for the farmers and business men of the county to co-operate in securing the enforcement of the state laws compelling all fruit tree owners to clear their trees of pests or cut the trees down. With the pests eradicated from Rogue River Valley the fruit industry would make this valley one of the most prosperous sections of the Pacific Coast.

TELEPHONE MEETING FOR PROVOLT

Plan to be Considered of Installing Line for Applegate Valley This Fall.

A meeting will be held at E. Badger's place at Provolt on Tuesday, October 30, at 2 p. m. sharp of the officers and stockholders of the Applegate Valley Telephone Company for the purpose of taking up the proposition of putting a rural telephone system in that Valley. It is expected that all the members will be present and aid in securing the object for which the Company was formed.

The rural telephone has come to be a necessity to the farmers and its value is more than is considered by those who have never had one in their house. It enables the farmer to keep posted on the markets and to save during the busy season many trips to town and to neighbors and in emergencies like sickness or fires it is of the greatest help. To the wife and family it brings relief from the isolation and monotony that is such a trying experience in the average farm home.

NO FRUIT INSPECTOR YET APPOINTED

Deferred Until November Term of County Court—Stop Sale of Diseased Fruit.

County Commissioner J. T. Logan was in Grants Pass Saturday from his home near Waldo as was also Commissioner M. A. Wertz from his sawmill near Leland and they and Judge Jewell held an informal meeting to consider the advisability of appointing a county fruit inspector as petitioned for by the fruit growers and recommended by State Horticultural Commissioner A. H. Carson. After a discussion of the matter it was decided to postpone action on the fruit growers petition until the adjourned term of court on November 13, there being a question as to whether the appointment would be legal if such made at a called session of the court.

It is very much against the wishes of the fruit growers that an inspector could not be appointed at once as the most effective destruction of anthracnose can only be made late in October and early in November when the fall crop of spores of this fungus is ripe and ready to be blown by the winds and carried by birds and other means to healthy trees. It is also imperative that spraying be done in November for San Jose scale. The anthracnose or canker, is spreading and is now found in fully half the orchards in Josephine county. This disease is as deadly to tree life as cancer is to human life and when once it gets on the limbs and trunk of a fruit tree it kills the bark and wood, spreading until the tree is dead. It is a disease easily eradicated if a spray of vitrol is used at the proper season of the year and in the right manner. The San Jose scale is equally as deadly to fruit trees but more slow in its destruction. It is found, more or less, in every orchard in the country and this present season it has more rapidly spread than in any previous year since it first made its appearance in Rogue River Valley. This pest alone destroyed apples and pears this season to the value of fully \$50,000 in this county. It is carried from orchard to orchard by the wind, birds, bees, stock and others. To eradicate scale the trees must be thoroughly sprayed with Bordeaux mixture in November and then again in February and then during the Summer months. The codlin moth does not make its appearance until the fruit begins to set and then is the time and no delay must be made to so thoroughly drench the young fruit with a solution of arsenate of lead that it will poison the worm that hatches from the moth egg so soon as it starts to burrow into the little apple or pear.

It is the determination of the progressive fruit growers and the business men of the county to have the same rigor applied in enforcing the state law for eradicating the fruit tree pests as is used in stopping epidemics of smallpox and other contagious and infectious diseases and for the suppression of disease creating places, or for removing a dangerous fire menace. This will be the last year that scaly, wormy or otherwise diseased fruit will be allowed to be sold in Josephine county and the farmer who does not spray his trees will have to lose his fruit. And resident and non-resident tree owners will have to spray or cut down their trees. That this drastic method for dealing with the pests is a necessity is conceded by all who are posted on the fruit industry for it is certain that were there no spraying done for the next five years that by the end of that period not a fruit tree would be alive in this county and fruit would have to be shipped in to supply the local trade.

OREGON DAIRY PRODUCTS FOR 1905

A \$2,500,000 Increase Over the Previous Year—287 Creameries in the State.

The annual report of J. W. Bailey, state dairy and food commissioner, will show that Oregon's dairy products for 1905 increased in value more than \$2,500,000 over the dairy products of the previous year. Instead of importing butter from Nebraska, Oregon is now shipping butter to the

Eastern states, says the Portland Journal.

There are now 287 creameries in Oregon, making 6,750,000 pounds of butter annually. The product last year was valued at upwards of \$1,700,000, an increase of nearly 40 per cent over the value of the previous year's product. A milk condensing industry has sprung up in addition that is turning out a \$75,000 product annually. Cheese is being manufactured at 124 cheese factories throughout western Oregon. Tillamook and Coos counties are the principal fields for cheese makers. There were 4,000,000 pounds turned out last year, valued at 11 cents per pound, and netting the producers about \$440,000. Commissioner Bailey expresses the opinion that the total value of the dairy products of Oregon for 1905 will reach nearly \$10,000,000. He said the Oregon dairymen gets an average of 4 or 5 cents a pound more for his butter than is secured by the Illinois dairymen. Reasons for this difference in favor of Oregon are not difficult to assign. It is known that the heavy demand from the shipping interests of the port consumes a large amount of butter. The coastwise and Alaska trade buys butter. There is a constantly increasing demand from the towns and cities, which are growing faster than the rural districts are developing. The large majority of new people here settle in the towns, while but comparatively few enter the butter producing industry. The result is a constantly pressing need for more butter than is being produced in Oregon, and the higher price here is obtained because of the time and money required to bring the eastern product by rail to the Oregon market.

In 18 months Oregon has furnished between 40,000,000 and 50,000,000 feet of fir lumber for use in the construction of cars at the shops of the Pullman Car Company located at Pullman, Ill. In the purchase of the material, the Company has expended close to \$1,500,000.

GRANTS PASS GETS IRRIGATION MEETING

Meet Here Next Fall—Meeting at Hood River Well Attended by Prominent Men.

The annual session of the Oregon Irrigation Association held at Hood River last week during the fruit fair, that was held in that place, was more largely attended than any previous session and the interest manifested in its proceedings was proof that irrigation is looked to as the means for doubling the resources and wealth of Oregon. Men prominent in all the leading industries and financial interests of the state and from all sections were present. The addresses were all practical and on the various phases pertaining to irrigation and gave much valuable information on this science.

The officers elected for the ensuing year are:

President, F. W. Metcalf, Union; first vice president, W. H. Moore, Portland; second vice president, J. W. Perkins, Medford; secretary, A. King Wilson, Portland; treasurer, Tom Wright, Union; executive committee, Judge S. A. Lowell, chairman, Pendleton; E. N. Smith, Ontario; W. F. Meyers, Laidlaw; T. F. Ryan, Oregon City; F. W. Holgate, Klamath Falls.

On the invitation of Charles Meserve, representing the Fruit Growers Union and the Commercial Club of this city, Grants Pass was chosen as the next place of meeting. Pendleton and Milton sought the next convention but failed to develop the strength to secure the honor. The session for next year will be held at the same time that the fruit and industrial fair is held in Grants Pass, which will probably be about the first week in October.

Miners' blanks at the Courier office.

Fine Beef Cattle.

G. C. Cully was in Grants Pass last Thursday from his ranch on Steamboat to deliver 30 head of fine beef cattle to W. I. Sweetland, of the Temple meat market. While here Mr. Cully contracted 80 head of steers to J. H. Ahlf of the City market, to be delivered 20 head each month for January, February, March and April. The steers are fine, large grade Herefords and will be stall fed on alfalfa and put in prime condition.

Mr. Cully has a fine stock ranch and a range on Grayback mountain that is one of the best in Rogue River Valley. That his ranch is a money maker is proven by the fine bands of beef cattle that he delivers each year to the Grants Pass and other markets and gets the top prices. Mr. Cully has demonstrated that there is more profit in stall feeding his beef cattle for Winter markets than to rush them as they come from the range in the Fall as so many stockmen do.

Morgan Mercantile Co.

The Morgan Mercantile Company, adjusters and collectors, of the Fenton building, Portland, Oregon, are earnestly striving to discredit the stigma that is generally applied to collecting agencies. This concern is rapidly forging to the front on the Pacific Coast as reliable collectors and it has built up for itself an enviable reputation for honesty and square dealings with its clients.

The merchants of the state have long felt the need of a company to which they could give their overdue notes and accounts for collection with the assurance that all monies collected thereon would be promptly remitted.

The company numbers among its customers the leading business firms of Portland, and its policy of making no charge whatsoever unless collection is made, seems absolutely fair.

This paper is satisfied that the Company is reliable and we therefore have no hesitancy in recommending it to our patrons. See their ad on page 6.

The economic housewife will be particularly interested in our Special Offerings this week.

Thomas & O'Neill
Opposite the Flag Pole
Homes Furnished Complete

Satisfaction guaranteed—money back if you want it. Everything for the house.

A BIG CUT IN CARPETS, LACE CURTAINS AND HEATERS.



Extra heavy, some all wool some mixed. Extraordinary values.
No 31 red \$1.25 to close 95c yd
" 46 " 92 1/2 " 75c
" 16 " 75c " 50c
" 60 " 92 1/2 " 75c
" 41 " \$1.10 " 85c
" 76 " 90c " 65c



LACE CURTAINS— we have a lot 1 to 2 pair of a kind, to close out we cut deep Regular \$4.50 per pair \$2.90 and so on. A few are sample curtains. Bring this ad with you.



PORTIERES—1 to 2 pair of a kind to close, special prices.



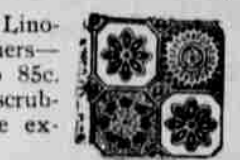
TABLE COVERS— regular \$4.50 for \$2.75 1.95 " 1.25

BISSELL'S SWEEPERS— are cheaper than brooms. We have Brooms, too, 25 to 45c and Bissell Sweepers \$3.25 to \$5.00 in choice woods.

What woman does not love pretty China—we are opening our
NEW CHINAWARE
an immense display of it—exquisite goods, choice Vases, Creamers, odd pieces in endless variety at surprisingly low prices.



LINOLEUMS—our new Linoleums are certainly winners—beautiful patterns—60 to 85c. Linoleum saves backache, scrubbing and is well worth the expense.



WASH BOILERS 10c—they are not large but well worth the money. The children appreciate them highly.



New Cribs—high drop sides, well finished; baby can't fall out. \$5.75.



Tinware of all kinds—Cups, 2 for 5c; plates 5c; this bread raiser all complete 75c.



HEATING STOVES—at cost Cast Tops and trimmings nickel-plated, lined

Regular \$7.50 for \$5.65
" 6.75 " 4.50

You can't afford to miss this.

Cast Cook Stoves—regular \$13.95 Stave for \$11.75.

COMFORTABLES—A big line, all sizes. We offer an exceptional bargain in our Comforts for \$1.00. We have some beauties at \$4.50. All the between prices.

SOFA PILLOW TOPS, Tapestry, regular 75c, to close 50c.

NEW PICTURE MOULDINGS—We have just received a lot more new patterns, very pretty and extra quality. Mats and liners all kinds. Bring in your pictures and let us show you some of the latest frames.



I Sell Real Estate

**SURETY BONDS,
FIRE INSURANCE
AND
RENT HOUSES.**



**W. L. IRELAND,
The Real Estate Man.**

Ground Floor, Courier Building, Grants Pass, Ore.